

# Patrol Operations: Crowd Control and Civil Disorder





# Objectives:

- Identify the need to assess both size and nature of a crowd
- Identify manpower, equipment and tactical alternatives usable in crowd control
- Identify the need to determine leaders and agitators of hostile groups
- Identify proper procedures for effecting arrests in crowd conditions
- Identify relevant New Mexico State law in regard to crowd behavior enforcement
- Identify community policing sensitive dispersal formations for moving congregated persons

# Introduction: Riots in the U.S.



Detroit Race Riot 1943



New York Draft Riot 1863



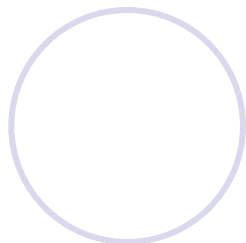
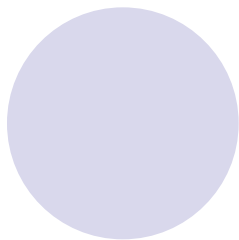
LA Riots 1992



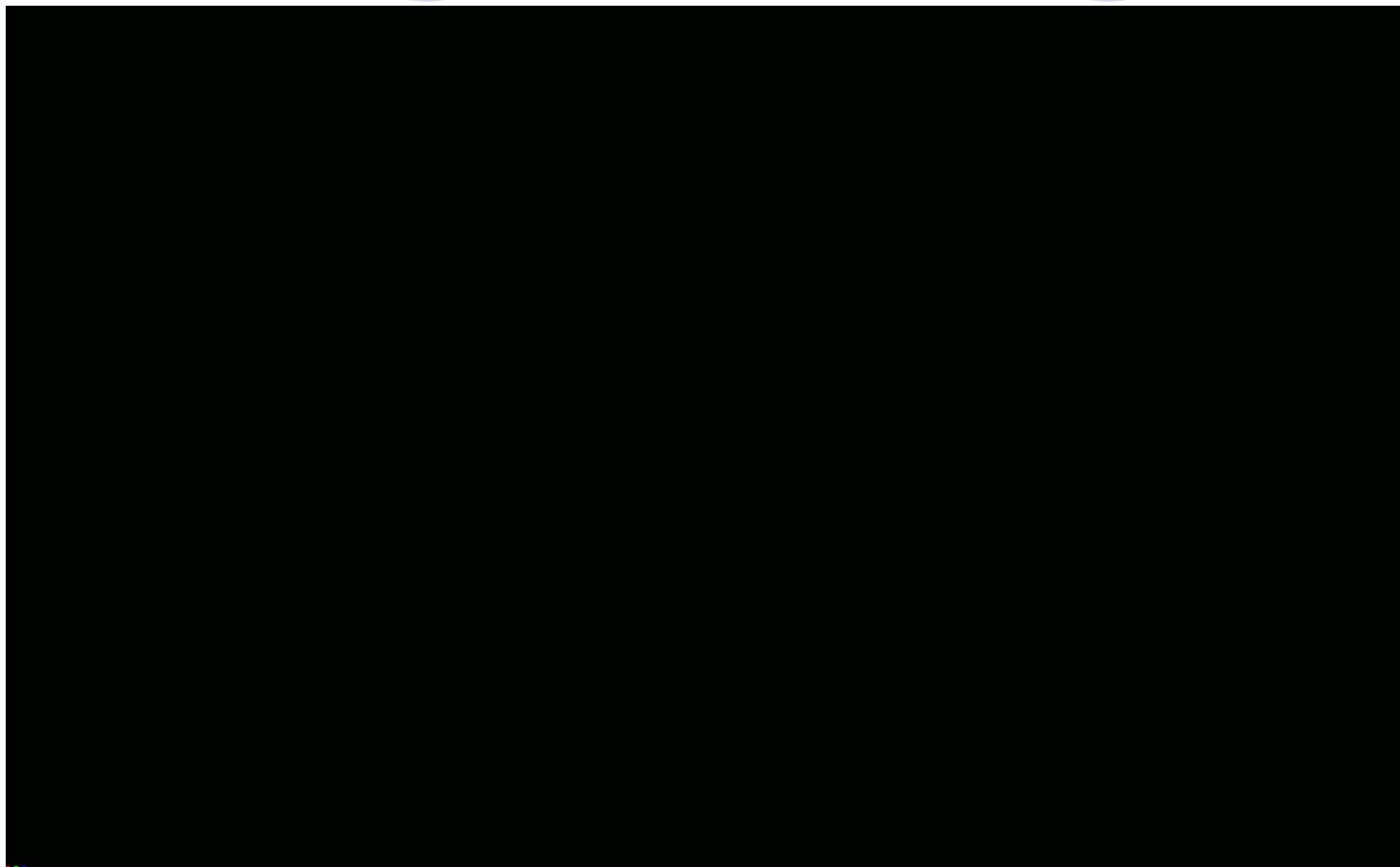
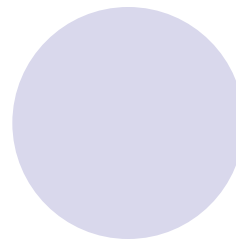
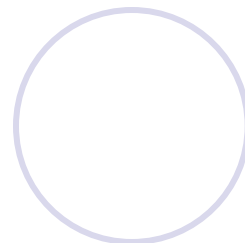
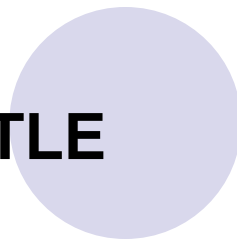
**Riots is the U.S.**



**CROWD SPRAY**



**SEATTLE**





# SEATTLE CONTINUED





# SEATTLE CONTINUED





# UCLA RIOTS



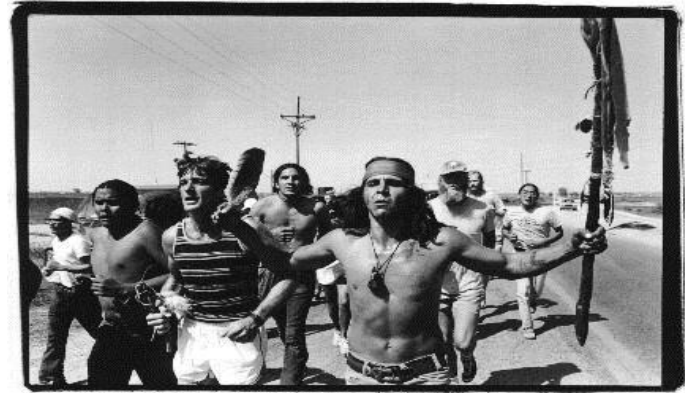


# Introduction:

Where in New Mexico have full blown riots been seen?



Santa Fe, PNM: February 1980



WIPP Protest: 1999



Abortion Protest



March 2003

# Confrontation Levels:

- Periods of increased tension
  - Graffiti and slogans
- Scattered minor incidents of violence
  - Harassment between individuals of groups
- Group-oriented violence
  - Roaming semi-organized groups bent on destruction, Defy authority
- Full riot
  - Large scale destruction and breach of peace

# Tactical Principles of Riot Control

## Containment



- 💀 Quick response to keep from spreading
- 💀 Estimate numbers in crowd
- 💀 Respond in sufficient force
- 💀 Prevent others from entering to loot or join riot

# Tactical Principles of Riot Control Dispersal

- ☠ Done systematically (ERT and SWAT.....TTP)
- ☠ Divide into sections and clear one at a time
- ☠ Establish a dispersal route
  - ☠ Avenue of escape must be clear!
  - ☠ Chemical agents only used to steer or deny access!
  - ☠ Chemical agents only used after verbal command is ignored (And by trained personnel)!
- ☠ Once section is clear, secure to prevent return

# Crowd Management: Basics

- 💀 First responders should evaluate
  - 💀 Right to gather
  - 💀 Right of the public to carry on business
  - 💀 Tactical ability of police
  - 💀 Emotional complexity of group
- 💀 The officer must keep in mind the objective:  
To control the situation through low key response
- 💀 The response should be safe and professional

# Use of Force:

- Less than Lethal

- Gas
- Impact weapons
- Others?



- Is lethal force authorized? When? How?

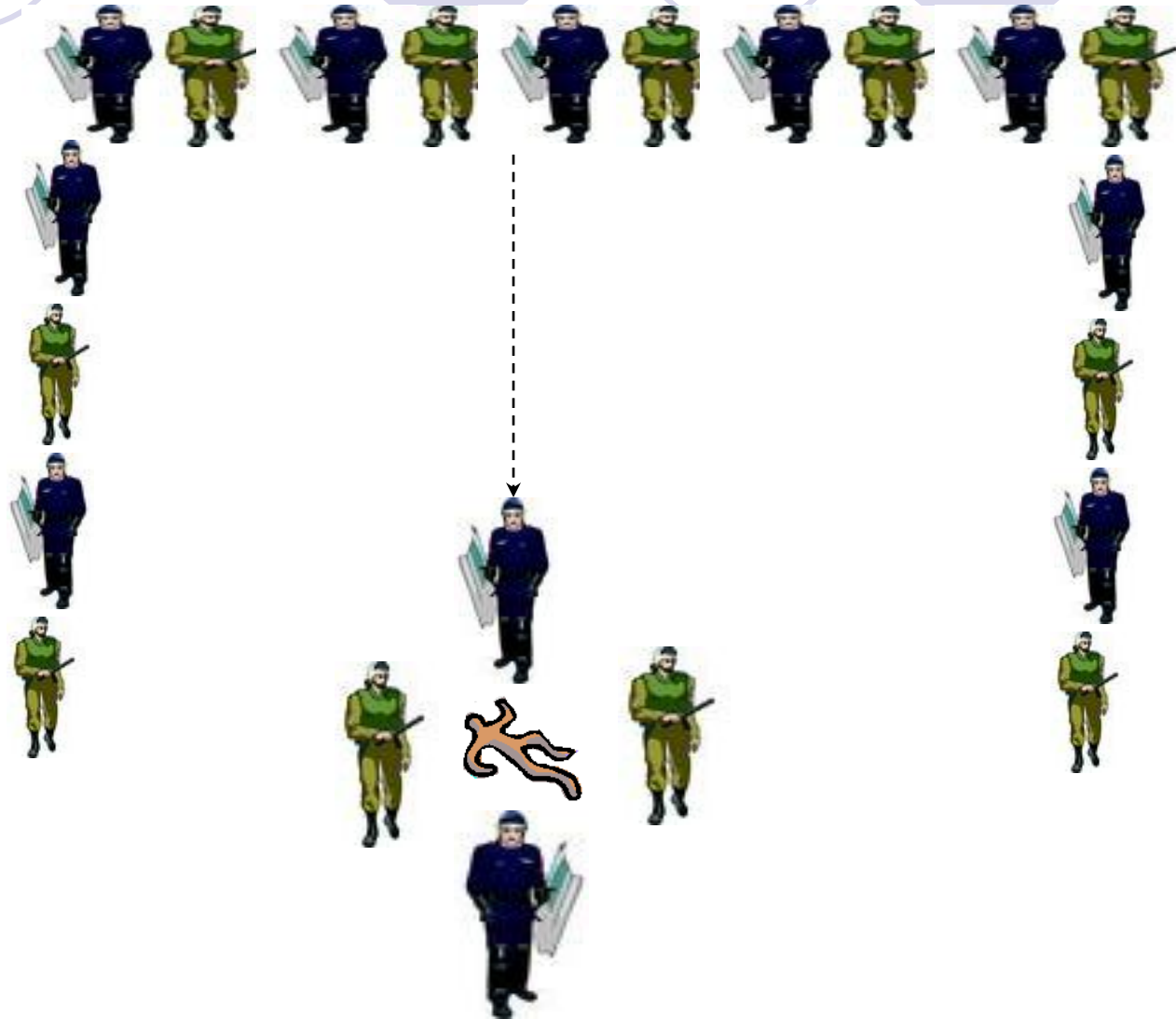
- Equipment:

- Helmet with Visor
- Shield
- Straight Baton
- Vest and protective gear
- Bullhorn



# Police Riot Formations:

- Skirmish Line
- Crossbow
- Alley
- Rescue

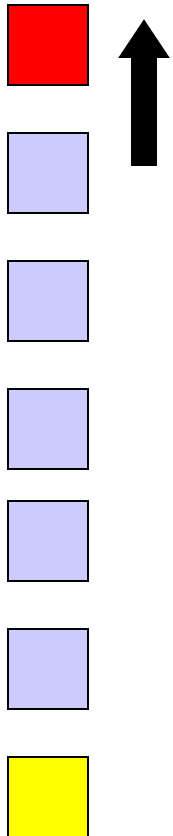




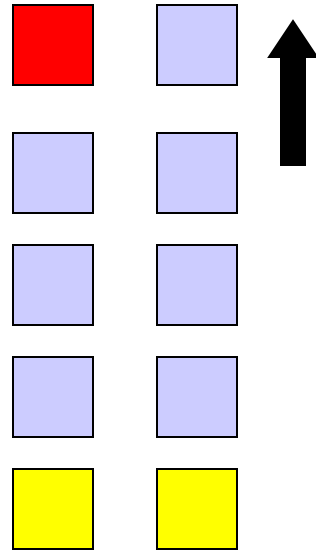
# Emergency Response Team

- Column Formation

Column



Column of Two's



Squad Leader



Squad Member



Asst. Squad Leader /  
Linebackers

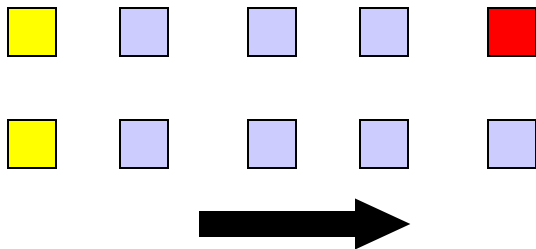





# Emergency Response Team

## ● Riot Formations

- Skirmish Line
- Skirmish line can be straight or directional depending on the needs of the team.
- Squad leader will direct the placement of skirmish line

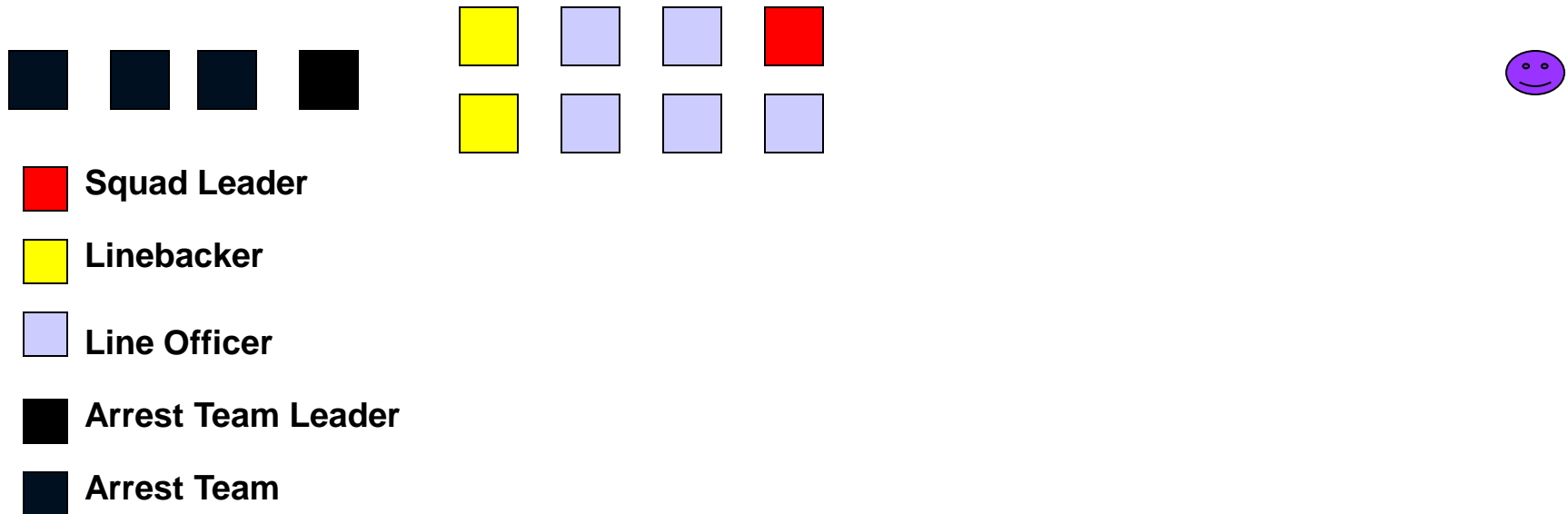
Column of Two's



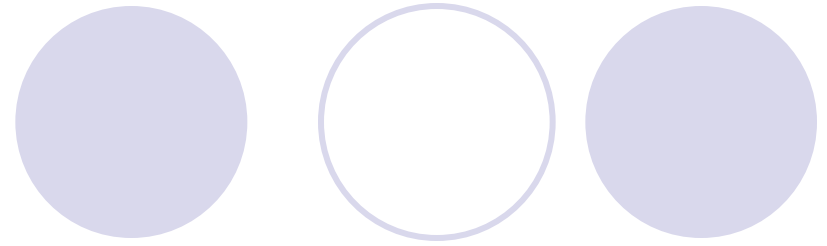
-  **Squad Leader**
-  **Line Officer**
-  **Line Backer /  
Asst. Squad  
Leader /  
Chemical Officer**

# Emergency Response Team

- Riot Formations, cont.
- Skirmish line with Arrest / Rescue Team (Rescue Circle)
  - Skirmish line is established while Arrest / Rescue Team Stages behind it
  - Arrest / Rescue Team moves through the skirmish line and “makes contact” with the suspect / victim
  - Suspect / Victim can then be safely controlled and brought back through the skirmish line for processing



# Individual Behavior:



- Impulsive and Lawless
  - Hotheaded and looking for a fight
- Suggestive
  - Easily influenced
- Cautious
  - Like to get into action but will never do it one-on-one
- Yielders
  - Opposed to violence but will get involved if others are
- Supportive
  - Cheerleaders
- Resisters
  - Do not lose their perspective, resist and cause problems
- Psychopathic
  - Angry at the world and would like to get even with society

# Crowd Psychology:

Many people will act differently in a **crowd** than they will alone for several reasons:

- 💀 Peer pressure
- 💀 Anonymity
- 💀 Fear / Panic
- 💀 Emotional Release



# Types of Crowds:



## Casual



No common interest,  
just there



## Cohesive



Common Goal



## Expressive



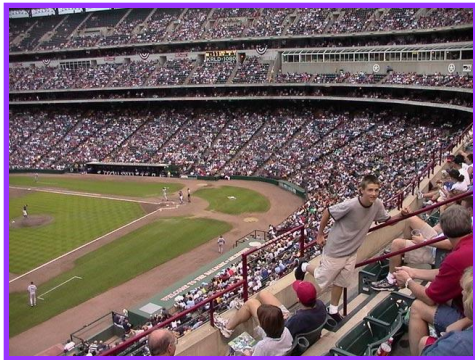
Common goal with  
purpose and state  
feelings



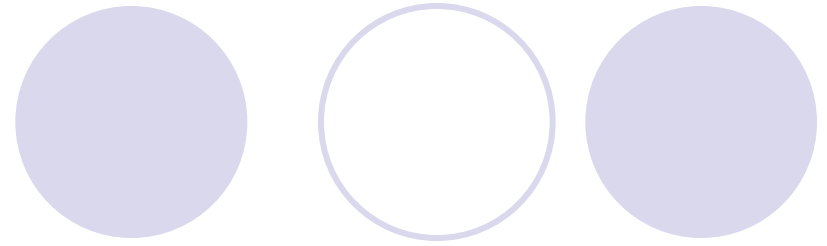
## Riot



Mob/Out of control



# Crowd Behavior:



- Aggressive
  - Taking action against something or someone
- Escape
  - No defined leadership and want to get away
- Acquisitive
  - Want to acquire something or someone
- Expressive
  - Not really a problem but may express in a bizarre way, could be aggressive with leadership

# Emergence of a Leader

- Leaders can instigate a crowd to conduct they did not intend
- Leader can be the point of contact to control the crowd
- Riotous leaders tend to stay in the rear of the crowd and motivate rather than lead



# Arresting Crowd Members:

- Take individuals away from the scene to make the arrest
- Make arrest according to your departmental policy
- Don't attempt to arrest the leader unless all else has failed!





# Tactical Response:



## Safe approach



### Develop a plan



Coordinate with other responding units



Utilize invisible deployment

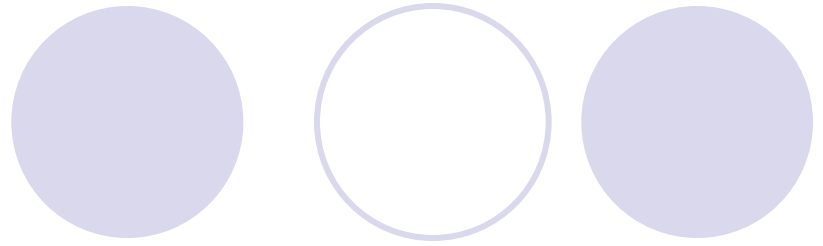


Using proper tactics may prevent escalation of the event



Copyright Christian Tournepin

# Tactical Response:



## 💀 Contain the scene:

💀 Identify the Location of the Disturbance

💀 Establish Cordon **POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLI**

💀 Restrict vehicle and pedestrian movement around area

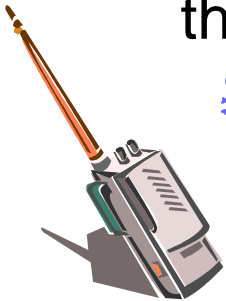
💀 Prevent the suspect(s) from going mobile

💀 Create an inner perimeter first

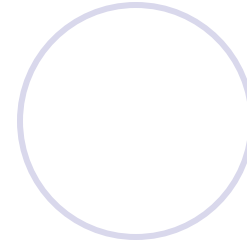
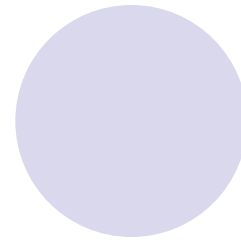
💀 As manpower is available, create a second perimeter and evacuate non-essential personnel

💀 Establish Command Post and Notify All Personnel of the Location:

💀 Direct all responding personnel to check-in prior to taking a position!



# Tactical Response:



- Identify and Isolate Witnesses
- Make Notifications:
  - Advise supervisor you have command and Incident Command System is initiated
  - Advise dispatch/Request priority on frequency
  - Request support (ERT/SWAT/Manpower)
  - Request assistance from other sources
    - Fire department
    - Rescue/Ambulance
    - Utilities: Electric-Gas-Water-Phone

# Legal Considerations:

- Local and county ordinances
- State laws
  - Disorderly Conduct, 30-20-1
  - Public Affray, 30-20-2
  - Unlawful Assembly, 30-20-3
  - Emergency Restrictions 30-20-6
  - Improper Use of Official Symbols, 30-21-4
  - Resisting/Obstructing an Officer, 30-22-1
  - Assault on a Peace Officer, 30-22-21
  - Battery on a Peace Officer, 30-22-24







STARBUCKS

U.S. Corporate Mouthpieces  
and Big Intern

CHILDREN UNDER  
AGE 18

SHAME  
ON  
CORPORATE  
MEDIA  
SCUM

to create  
in an act  
Prosti

INAB CRIMES in Iraq







(AP PHOTO)



















# Conclusion:

- Response to a civil event
- Dispersal of crowd
- Crowd management
- Crowd psychology
- Crowd leaders
- Tactical response
- Managing the scene
- Notifications

***People are smart, a whole lot of people are stupid.***